

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| JOB TITLE | **Regulatory Researcher for sSA** | | **GRADE** |  |
| PILLAR | CAFCN | | | |
| ABOUT THE ORGANISATION | **A unique collaboration to strengthening Africa’s financial markets.**  Established in 2012 and supported by UK aid, FSD Africa is a specialist development agency working to build and strengthen financial markets across sub-Saharan Africa. FSD Africa works to reduce poverty through a ‘market systems development’ approach, which means we aim to address the structural, underlying causes of poverty by improving how financial market systems function. FSD Africa is part of a family of 9 financial sector deepening programmes across 8 countries, operating throughout sub-Saharan Africa, comprising a staff of over 250 financial sector experts. As a team we work alongside governments, business leaders, regulators and policy makers to design and build ambitious programmes that make financial markets work better for everyone.  The Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance (CCAF) is an interdisciplinary academic research institute at the University of Cambridge Judge Business School, dedicated to the study of alternative finance, which includes technology-enabled financial instruments, channels and systems that emerge outside of the traditional financial system. The CCAF is establishing a global knowledge network that accelerates the creation and transfer of knowledge relating to FinTech: the Cambridge Alternative Finance Collaboration Network (CAFCN). As a cross-sectoral and cross-regional network, the CAFCN can facilitate FinTech market development and effect evidence-based regulatory changes in economies seeking to promote the sustainable growth of FinTech industries. For the first stage of activation, the CAFCN will be operating regional research collaborations in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and the Asia-Pacific Region (APAC).    FSD Africa to join forces and establish the CAFCN operations in and CCAF have agreed to join forces and establish the CAFCN operations in the SSA. FSD Africa will recruit a team consisting of a Regional Lead and specialist researchers working on both FinTech market and regulatory research, which will be directly supervised by the University of Cambridge’s Centre for Alternative Finance. This embedded team will accelerate the creation, dissemination and adoption of FinTech-related knowledge across the SSA in three ways. First, the embedded research team will effectively collect and analyse high-fidelity FinTech market and regulatory data across key markets within the SSA. Second, by working with a diverse group of stakeholders and leveraging existing networks within the region (e.g. FSD Network), the team will engage in more research dissemination, knowledge transfer and capacity building activities. Third, through CAFCN’s global network and by working together with other regional research collaborations, the team can facilitate cross-regional creation and transfer of FinTech knowledge, best industry practices, regulatory lessons and learning, as well as human capital. | | | |
| REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS | REPORTS DIRECTLY TO | CAFCN Regional Lead SSA | | |
| REPORTS INDIRECTLY TO | CCAF/ FSD Africa | | |
| JOB PURPOSE | The purpose of the role is to lead CCAF’s research on the regulation of alternative finance in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), in order to support the improved regulation of alternative finance, in line with the objectives of the Cambridge Alternative Finance Collaboration Network (CAFCN).  The outputs of the Regional Alternative Finance Regulatory Research will provide key data and insights to inform and enable the work and practice of FinTech industry, investors, and policymakers and regulators, thereby facilitating FinTech market development and effecting evidence-based regulatory change. This will support the development of an enabling regulatory environment and increased regulatory and supervisory capacity, which are required to support FinTech market development and, in turn, financial inclusion and economic growth.  This position will be a seconded position with FSD Africa in Nairobi, the hosting organisation of CAFCN in SSA. The regional team will be based in FSD Africa’s offices and receive relevant support. Whilst being seconded to FSD Africa, the role holder will report to the CAFCN Regional Lead in Nairobi and work closely with the Lead in Regulatory Research based at the CCAF in Cambridge. | | | |

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| **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND ROLE REQUIREMENTS**   1. **Regulatory innovation and learning**   Gather and disseminate lessons learned and best practices on the regulation of FinTech activities regional and cross-regionally by:   * Examining the appropriateness and effectiveness of regulatory innovation initiatives in the region, such as regulatory sandboxes, innovation offices and RegTech; * Providing evidence-based recommendations for policymakers and regulators seeking to develop an appropriate and fit-for-purpose regulatory framework for FinTech in the region; and * Providing input on the regulatory barriers to FinTech in specific markets.  1. **Research**   Undertake and publish research which advances the regional and global understanding of how to design and regulate alternative finance/technology-enabled financial innovation. This includes translating knowledge of advances in the subject areas into research activity.   1. **Education**   Develop and deliver training and education programmes, both online and offline, on the subject of the regulation of technology-enabled financial innovation, in order to support regulatory capacity building in this field.   1. **Partner relationship management**   Publicly represent the CAFCN in international and regional fora and among key partners, including financial regulators and central banks, international standard setting bodies, government departments, universities, think tanks, and development partners.   1. **Stakeholder and funding development**   Support the CAFCN Regional Lead, and the wider CAFCN, in the development of the CAFCN’s programmes, networks and outputs. This includes developing strong stakeholder relationships in the region and identifying and supporting the development of further funded initiatives. |

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| **PERSON SPECIFICATIONS**  **Essential Experience**   * Extensive experience in the regulation of alternative finance/FinTech, with knowledge and skills obtained through direct experience of working with/for a financial regulator, central bank or other relevant authority in the region a strong advantage * Demonstratable track record in conducting and delivering regulatory research of interest to regulators and policymakers, and in engaging with policymakers and regulators, ideally at the international level   **Essential Skills**   * Strong stakeholder management skills * Effective organizational and project management skills * Excellent communication and presentation skills * Ability to function effectively in an international, intercultural and interdisciplinary environment   **Desirable Experience**   * Experience and knowledge derived from working with/for a regulator, central bank or other relevant authority’s FinTech unit or function (such as an innovation office or regulatory sandbox), particularly in the region, is a strong advantage * Experience in delivering capacity building and training on the subject of FinTech and/or regulation a strong advantage   **Desirable Skills**   * Understanding of effective global knowledge creation and transfer in FinTech and financial innovation research * Insights into the major global financial system market participants, donor and philanthropic ecosystem * Language skills in addition to fluent written and speaking English, especially relevant for the SSA region |

**Application arrangements**

For further inquiries and details on how to apply please contact Philip Rowan ([p.rowan@jbs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:p.rowan@jbs.cam.ac.uk)) and ([d.kruijff@jbs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:d.kruijff@jbs.cam.ac.uk)). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.